(b) if so, the details thereof and the fresh policy initiatives taken to check further degradation of health of the citizens in various parts of the country on account of auto air pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Expert Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Director General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) to recommend an Auto Fuel Policy, for the Country, has made various recommendations in its Interim Report relating to introduction of cleaner fuels and better emission standards etc. The recommendations of the Committee have been approved by the Government and they have been communicated to the concerned Ministries and the oil companies for implementation.

In the light of the recent Supreme Court directives and based on the final report of the Expert Committee, necessary decisions will be taken.

Irregularities in Publications Division

† 4349. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published on 19th March, 2002 in "Rashtriya Sahara", New Delhi under the caption, "Prakashan Vibhag main aniyamittaoun kay chaltey karoro rupay ka nuksaan";

(b) if so, the facts of this case; and

(c) the action taken against the guilty persons responsible for the irregularities being committed in the Publications Division?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news-item published in Rashtriya Sahara on 19th March, 2002 has been examined and found that it was published without ascertaining the factual position from the Government i.e. National Gallery of Modem Art or Department of Culture. The allegations made therein are unfounded.

(c) Does not arise.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.